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**THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
GLOBAL LEGAL DEPARTMENT - IP
SYCAMORE BUILDING - 4TH FLOOR
299 EAST SIXTH STREET
CINCINNATI OH 45202**

NOV 13 2009

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,178,531 :
Issue Date: February 20, 2007 :
Application No. 10/603,977 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: June 25, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. 8982C& :
:

This is a decision on the petition filed February 23, 2009, which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 3.81(b) to correct the name of the assignee on the front page of the above-identified patent by way of a certificate of correction.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Petitioner requests issuance of a certificate of correction in the name of "Matsushita Electric Works, LTD."

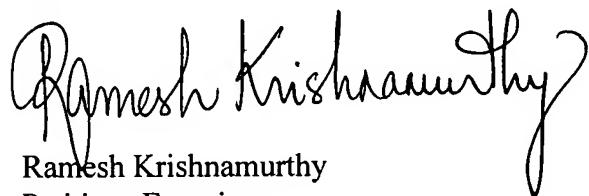
37 CFR 3.81(b), effective June 25, 2004, reads:

After payment of the issue fee: Any request for issuance of an application in the name of the assignee submitted after the date of payment of the issue fee, and any request for a patent to be corrected to state the name of the assignee, must state that the assignment was submitted for recordation as set forth in § 3.11 **before issuance of the patent**, and must include a request for a certificate of correction under § 1.323 of this chapter (accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.20(a) and the processing fee set forth in § 1.17(i) of this chapter [emphasis added]. *See also* MPEP 1481.01.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office assignment records disclose that an assignment from the inventors to Proctor and Gamble Company and to Matsushita Electric Works, LTD. was recorded on May 16, 2008, **after the date of issuance of this patent**. Accordingly, since the assignment

was not submitted for recordation until after issuance of this patent, issuance of a certificate of correction would not be proper.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision on petition should be directed to Tredelle Jackson at (571) 272-2783.



Ramesh Krishnamurthy
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions